

valuable services to the colonies. The more intelligent among them might be made teachers, and could commence a life of usefulness in their adopted country. We would most respectfully invite the attention of the friends of Africa to this important means of rendering colonization a rich blessing to the coloured population of this country, and prospectively, of equal benefit to degraded Africa. This plan is liable to many difficulties, but they are not insuperable.

2. It has been long ago suggested, that the number of emigrants might be indefinitely increased, without diminishing the funds of the society, by the following simple method. There are many persons who cannot consent to leave their servants in perpetual vassalage. There are persons who design as early as practicable to emancipate their slaves, and desire ardently to place them where they may be happy and prosperous. In either case, nothing is more easy than to make arrangements to hire out, from year to year, as many of such slaves as would be profitable, and when a sufficient amount is raised, apply it to their transportation and support in Africa. From the present state of popular feeling in regard to the coloured population, it is perhaps, asking too much, that the children of such emigrants be as far as possible, taught to read and write in this country. They would be thus made competent to assist at an early age their less favoured parents. This plan embraces no more than humanity contemplates. There is here, as far as we can judge, nothing impracticable or visionary. Nothing but what, in the progress of this enterprise may be expected, as the humane features of colonization are developed. That education here and in Africa, will be furnished to emigrants we cannot for a moment doubt; nor is there any thing to diminish our confidence in the judicious preparation of emigrants and funds in the manner above suggested. This, if we have not deceived ourselves, must precede any very extensive emigration by the free coloured people at their own expense, and forms an important link in the providential chain of events, which in the wisdom of God, will work together in regard to the sons of Africa.

Hitherto, almost the whole of the funds contributed to colonization have been expended in the colonies, beyond the observation of the people of colour in this country. They have, therefore, had no proof, but the simple declaration of the friends of the scheme that regard for their well-being had any thing to do with it. Nor do we now advocate the idea that education either here or in Africa should be carried on by colonization societies. It may properly form a distinct branch of the enterprise either by missionary societies or societies organized in reference to this object. But in what ever way it is promoted, nothing can more favourably impress the minds of the coloured people in reference to the benign influence of the scheme.

We have now briefly submitted our views as to the method of elevating the state of society in Africa with the indefinite increase of emigrants without diminishing the funds of the societies. The management here and there, of the complicated machinery, demands the best judgment and intelligence of the ablest boards of managers that can be associated in the different cities of the Union. Let others who feel the importance of the scheme do their part as faithfully and perseveringly, and Africa will soon exhibit to the civilized world, results as surprising as they will be beneficial. Heaven appears to have committed to the people of the United States the great work of civilizing and evangelizing that vast continent. She has all the materials necessary to its accomplishment. It remains to be seen how the debt we owe to that people will be paid off.

(From the Baltimore Sun.)

#### The Free Negroes.

Every paper from the eastward, furnishes additional evidence of the deep seated feelings which prevailed in relation to the exciting subject of abolition and amalgamation. In the city of Philadelphia, there exists at this time all the materials of violent and brutal commotion; and we shall not be at all surprised if, before a great while, there should be a repetition of the disgraceful and tumultuous scenes which have recently disturbed the peace of that city, and cast a shade upon its municipal dignity. If we are asked why we entertain this opinion, our simple answer is, because there exist combinations of moral incendiaries, associated for the purpose of disseminating, by hidden means, printed matter, handbills, placards, pamphlets, &c. all having for their object the destruction of that quiet and harmony, without which society cannot prosper. We have just held a conversation with an intelligent gentleman from Philadelphia, upon whose statement we can place the most implicit reliance, who assures us that scarcely a night passes without some new and exciting placard, printed in large and attractive letters, being posted up at every public point. He saw, within a few days past, one of these placards posted on each of the pillars of the Pennsylvania Hall, the building which the mob, a short time since, destroyed by fire, because it was supposed to have been erected for abolition purposes. Crowds of people were standing around the ruins, and most of them giving vent to intemperate expressions of indignation, at the means taken by those who had put up the placards to disseminate their doctrines. A night does not pass without letters, neatly printed, being thrown into nearly every house, and the consequence is, that during the day conversation chiefly turns upon the novel missiles of the preceding night. In this way, food is constantly given to a morbid appetite for excitement, which eventually, there is every reason to fear, will burst forth with ungovernable fury. Upon these facts we make the following observations. We plainly put the question, has any man or set of men the right thus to exert themselves in a manner which, they well know, will inflame the brutal passions of the less informed portion of the people? Can any one, having in view an

amelioration of the condition of the coloured people, suppose for a moment, that the negroes are to be benefitted by the posting up of placards covered with matter calculated to excite the indignation of a large number of the white population? If those who pay the expenses of the printing and dissemination of the obnoxious papers referred to, shall, through their efforts, create a mob, and the destruction of life and property, are they not, in the eye of God, justly punishable for the evils which they have produced—murder and misery? We certainly think so; and it is our thinking so occasions us to express our decided disapprobation of the course taken by those who profess to achieve, through the medium of abolition or amalgamation doctrines, any benefit to the coloured race. Besides, things are carried to the most extravagant lengths; fanaticism, we well know, has no bounds, and hence we find the intemperate and excited advocates of the negroes running into extremes the most censurable and the most amazing. It is quite common to find persons of really humane feelings, acting in the strangest manner, neglecting misery and misfortunes in the whites, and fostering idleness, impertinence and extravagance in the blacks. If these persons, many of whom are very worthy people, would reflect a little upon the effects of their conduct, they certainly would soon come to the conclusion, that instead of serving the negroes, they are remiss in their duty to their white brethren, and inflicting deep wounds upon the prosperity of the community among whom they live. Our readers will perceive that we have written this article in a tone of calmness and deliberation, uninfluenced by the passions which may be supposed to give a turn or colouring to either side of the question. We have done so with the most serious considerations. We firmly believe, as we have already intimated, that before long a great confusion will take place in Philadelphia, concerning the negroes; the feelings which give rise to and support such commotions, soon spread, and may reach our own city, and therefore it would be well to have the public mind here in a condition not to be taken by surprise, but with all its energies fully awake to the various features of a question which, in this state, more than in Pennsylvania, immediately affects the public welfare.

(From the Baltimore American.)

The American Colonization Society has within a short time made two valuable acquisitions of territory. The first of these is a portion of country called Little Bassa, lying in a triangular form between the Atlantic and the Junk and St. Paul's rivers. The soil is said to be rich, and very productive in camwood and palm oil. There is a sea-coast of twenty-seven miles, and the rivers converge toward their sources so as to form a peninsula, but are not navigable except for canoes and small boats, owing to ledges of rocks that cross them.

The other territory acquired is a portion of the Dey country, lying on the north of the St. Paul's, about one mile from its mouth, and extending five miles square. In both cases the country has been seized by the officers of the colony, owing to the non-compliance of the natives with terms to which they had agreed, on account of a murder and detention of property. These terms were in the first instance readily assented to, with the condition that if they were not complied with the territory should be forfeited. The time allowed for compliance having elapsed, and the natives showing a disposition to evade and equivocate, after a delay of many months the forfeiture was enforced. Whilst we assent to the propriety of exacting strict compliance with contracts deliberately entered into, we cannot but fear that the transaction will lay the ground-work of future troubles, by new-comers. The intention of the colony is not to oblige the natives to leave the country but to suffer them to remain, provided they pursue their private concerns in peace.

(From the Christian Statesman.)

#### Sketches of Liberia—Colonial Settlements.

Cape Mesurado, the site of Monrovia, the first settlement fairly established by the American Colonization Society, has always been an important point of the west coast of Africa, in the estimation of all vessels visiting that coast. It makes a better land-fall than Cape Mount, to the north, or any other headland to the south of it, being more easily recognized, and has always afforded supplies of wood, water, and provisions to shipping. The description given of it by the Chevalier de Marchais, in the account of his voyages to Guinea in 1725,—'26,—'27, is tolerably correct. He gives rather a more flattering description of the natives there, than truth would warrant at the present day; although the influence of the slave-trade may sufficiently account for their subsequent deterioration of character and habits. It is remarkable that he should have chosen the same spot for a French settlement, and has given a minute plan of the proposed colony, for the purpose of buying slaves and produce.

Cape Mesurado is a high, bold, rocky headland, in the latitude of 6° 29' N. and in longitude 10° 50' W., covered, when not inhabited, with a dense forest-growth almost impenetrable from vines and brushwood. Its highest elevated point nearly overhangs the sea, and is about 150 feet above its level. Monrovia occupies a platform about 80 feet lower, gradually lessening as it extends towards the main land. This elevated peninsula forms the S. W. bank of a large basin of water, formed by the junction of the Mesurado river, and a branch from the St. Paul's river, called the Stockton creek. On its inland side is placed the greater part of the town. It was occupied by a few coloured emigrants from the United States, under the care of the Rev. Mr. J. Ashmun, the devoted agent of the American Colonization Society, in the year 1822.

An account of the exertions and sufferings of this little band of pilgrims to Africa, and their successful defeat of the combined savage host that would have exterminated them are so graphically and touchingly described by Mr. Ashmun himself, that for minute details, I would beg leave to refer to his memoir of the events of that interesting period; and to the life of that extraordinary man, by his biographer, the Rev. R. R. Gurley. From that period until 1824, little improvement was made in the town—either in the number and architecture of the houses, or in the extent of ground cleared, the interval being chiefly employed in reconciling the colonists to their new home, and in organizing an efficient system of government, which being effected, prosperity and contentment speedily followed.

The whole population of Monrovia, including native residents, may be safely stated at 1,200. A considerable number of its early settlers have gone for the benefit of agriculture, to the other settlements. All the houses are frame; many with stone basements; 10 or 12 large two story stone dwelling houses, and as many very large warehouses, with stone wharves on the river, afford good evidences of industry. The stone is well adapted for building, being a sort of close-grained granite, and a heavy, red vesicular sandstone, of which the cape is chiefly composed. The colonial schooners are built by the colonists themselves, and are very good specimens of naval architecture. They trade in palm oil, camwood, and ivory, along the coast, more particularly to Cape Mount and Grand Bassa.

There are four large churches, at present, in Monrovia, three of which are stone, and afford flattering evidence of the architectural taste of the colonists who erected them. Two very excellent stone school-houses are nearly finished, one built by the Methodist mission, the other by the Ladies' Liberian Education Society, in Richmond.

The town itself covers three square miles. The streets are laid off at right angles, and are wide, the principal one, Broadway, being 100 feet. Each block consists of four lots, each a quarter of an acre. Most of the gardens in Monrovia are abundantly supplied with fruit trees; the oranges and lemons are very fine and large, the latter unusually so. The cocoa flourishes and bears abundantly. The pomegranate, the cashew, the fig, and grapevine, may be seen, but not in any abundance. Indeed, the gardens and farms of the colonists are yet as experiments, showing rather, what can be done, than tests of the resources of the soil and country. Yet I am sure that any colonizationist, who has given his time, his talents, or money, to advance the cause, who could be able to look on the many neat white-painted houses, with Venetian blinds, surrounded by white fences, and placed, each, so comfortably in the deep green shades of those trees, like a bird's nest in a clump of foliage, to the inmates of which, he has secured all the dignity and privileges of freemen, would consider himself more than repaid.

A court-house and jail are being built of stone. The library once contained some thousands of books, but from the scarcity of general readers, they have become scattered and neglected, the building, as well as books, being nearly consumed by bugabugs and other real bookworms. In fact, it was a supply not needed, a feast for which they had, as yet, no relish. Many people consider themselves sufficiently charitable in sending out as many old religious books as they have no use for. When he who gives a dollar to assist in supporting schools and teachers, does more than the mere donor of 100 books. A Moral Friendship Society, for the suppression of vice, and encouragement of virtue, has existed for some years. They have also a Union Sisters' Charity Society, for purposes of benevolence, and a temperance society of 500 members.

There are two forts in Monrovia; one in the centre of the town, of a triangular form, with square towers at the angles, built by Dr. Randall. Its only use, at present, is as an arsenal. The other is placed on the summit of the cape. It completely commands the town and roadstead. They are pretty well supplied with cannon, but are much in want of carriages, wood decaying soon in that climate. Cast metal carriages would be the most suitable. A flag-staff and signal-house are also stationed there to give notice of vessels in the offing.

The commerce of Monrovia has diminished considerably there of late years. The colonists became involved in heavy debts to American and English merchants, from rash and careless crediting. A spirit of trading was encouraged that gave the colony a great apparent prosperity, which was suddenly checked by the internal wars stopping the influx of native produce. This has, however, proved to them that agricultural success can be the only measure of colonial prosperity. The duties arising from imports, at present, are about \$1,500 per annum.

The currency of the colony is a mixture of goods, camwood, ivory, palm-oil, Spanish dollars, and Sierra Leone cut money. They have, at present, bills in circulation, issued on the faith of the colonial government, which answers very well.

**New Georgia.**—This settlement of recaptured Africans sent out by the United States, is four miles from Monrovia on the Stockton creek. The town is about half a mile square, and is inhabited by two tribes, the Eboes and Congoes. The tribes are divided from each other by a main street. It exhibits more general industry and neatness than any other settlement. They take pains to keep their streets smooth and clean. Their lots and farms are well cultivated, the former being fenced with wild plum, or the croton oil nut. They seem contented and happy, attend church regularly, and are anxious to have their children educated. Magistrates and constables are annually appointed from among themselves, the dignity of which offices they prize much, and execute the duties faithfully, as far as they are able. During elections of general officers, they may be seen attending the polls with all the bustle and activity of warm politicians. There are two schools in this settlement; one under the care of the Methodist Episcopal Mission, the other is supported by the Ladies' Liberian Society, in Philadelphia. The population was 300 by the last census.

**Caldwell.**—This settlement is very pleasantly situated on the south bank of the St. Paul's river, which is here about a mile in width. The town extends four miles along the banks, and one on the Stockton creek. The inhabitants are chiefly engaged in farming. Large quantities of potatoes, arrow-root, cassada, plantains, and Indian corn, are raised. A superintendent of the settlement, magistrates, and constables, are appointed by the governor. It has two churches and two schools, supported by the same as those in New Georgia. Two large receptacles for their emigrants are erected there by the society. The lots are laid off similar to those of Monrovia. The farms are placed around the outskirts of the town. The most of the emigrants who settled Caldwell were poor from the first, and have not, therefore, done very great things in farming; but the comfort and independence of the inhabitants is in the exact proportion to their agricultural industry. There are many respectable men there, who, surrounded with abundance, have often declared themselves to be entirely satisfied with their new home. Caldwell numbers 600 inhabitants.

**Millsburg.**—Is 12 miles higher up the St. Paul's river than Caldwell. It is very pleasantly situated, and in the dry season is a very delightful residence. It is more decidedly agricultural than any of the

other settlements. Many of its inhabitants have a large number of young coffee trees and the sugar cane growing abundantly—of potatoes, cassada, plantains, Indian corn, and indeed of all the vegetable necessities of life, there is no want, nor ever need of. In times of scarcity among the natives, they have applied to Millsburg for supplies. The soil is a rich clay loam, and has always been considered the best in the colony. In this settlement the emigrants occupy at once their farms, which run back from the river in strips of ten acres by one. This is, undoubtedly the best place for the promotion and encouragement of agriculture, but liable to this objection in infant settlements—that the houses being necessarily separated to a considerable distance from each other, the inhabitants are less easily concentrated in cases of attacks from the natives. The population is about 500.

**Marshall.**—The last settlement formed by the American Colonization Society, is situated at Junk river, near its entrance into the sea. It is composed of recaptured Africans from the United States, with some other emigrants. The chief employment of these people when I saw them, was making lime, from oyster-shells, farming to some extent, and trading with the natives. One of the branches of the Junk, called the Red Junk, runs up a long distance into the country, by which a profitable trade might be established, while it offers good locations for missionary stations.

**Edina.**—This settlement was formed about six years ago, during Elliott Cresson's visit to Scotland, as agent of the American Colonization Society, and is named after Edinburgh, in honour of the liberality of its citizens, and country generally to the colonization cause. It is one of the most pleasant and promising settlements established by the society. It is situated on a point of land forming the north-west bank of a large and beautiful expanse of water, arising from the confluence of three rivers which meet here just before the mingling of the stream with the ocean; the main branch of which is the St. John's river. Its population numbers somewhat more than three hundred persons, and sixty houses. It has two churches, and is the principal station of the Baptist missionaries. It has two schools, one for the colonists, supported by the Ladies' Society, in Philadelphia, and a school for native boys chiefly, under the care of the Baptist missionaries. It has considerable trade in camwood and ivory; and three or four American and English vessels visit it annually. A Ladies' Liberian Education Society was organized in Edinburgh to support schools in it for the benefit of natives and colonists; but their benevolent intentions were frustrated by the opposition of the abolition party, who industriously spread mistrust among its members, and the welfare of Africa and the colony, was sacrificed to party spirit on the authority of ex parte statements.

I have lived two years in this settlement, and gladly bear testimony to the general industry, contentment, and morality, of its inhabitants. They are all anxious to have their children well educated.

This settlement is now united with Bassa Cove, under the supervision of the New York City and Pennsylvania Colonization Societies.

**Bassa Cove.**—This settlement occupies the side of the river opposite to Edina, about a mile distant. It was formed by the New York and Pennsylvania Colonization Societies, and consists of the emigrants who escaped from the massacre of Port Cresson, (as the settlement was then called) the location of which was two miles further southward than the present town of Bassa Cove. Four expeditions of emigrants have been sent there since those societies first commenced their operations which was in December, 1834. Bassa Cove has been re-established since December, 1835, and numbers now more than 200 emigrants, exclusive of native residents. The people are industrious, more given to agriculture than in the other settlements. The sale of ardent spirits is prevented by law. There are two very fine churches built, Methodist and Baptist. A school is taught at the expense of the Ladies' Liberian Education Society, of New York. A lyceum was established by Mr. Buchanan, for the mutual improvement of the young men of the village, and it has done considerable good. Each church has a Sunday school, with forty children in all, and fifteen natives. An excellent jail and court-house have been erected, and a wind saw-mill is in process of erection. It is, on the whole, one of the most promising settlements in Liberia.

A new settlement named Bexley has lately been surveyed, and commenced by Lewis Sheridan. This soil is very fine, and fit for any tropical produce. It is named, at the request of the British African Colonization Society, after their president, Lord Bexley. They subscribed \$500 towards its formation. It is situated about six miles up the St. John's river, and will make a beautiful residence for the industrious emigrant.

**Sidon.**—A settlement has lately been formed by the colonization societies of Mississippi and Louisiana. The location is said to be very good. It is about half way between Cape Palmas and Monrovia.

**Cape Palmas.**—This very prominent headland, on the west coast of Africa, has been selected by the Maryland Colonization Society for their operations. A settlement has been established there a little more than four years. It numbers 450 colonists, and extends about four miles inland. The sale of ardent spirits is forbidden by law, and all trading is confined to the public store alone. The Presbyterian mission, under Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, has been established there some years, and the great good which has resulted from the persevering and devoted labours of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, are highly spoken of by all who have visited that colony, as well as the natives themselves, with whom I have conversed on the subject. Mr. Wilson has two schools under his care, with three coloured assistants, one at Rocktown and one at Cavally, besides that more immediately at his own residence. Two churches are built, and exercises are performed regularly at Mount Vaughan, the residence of the Protestant Episcopal missionary. There are two other schools in the town for the colonists, and another school house is building at the expense of the Ladies' Liberian Education Society of Baltimore, for a very competent coloured preacher and his wife, who went out lately. A very fine road has been made for nine miles inland, and is intended to be carried to Delneh, the Episcopal mission station, in the interior about sixty miles. A very excellent law has lately been passed by Mr. Russwurm, the agent there, that eighteen months after the passing of the act, no officer should hold a commission who could not read and write; the consequence of which is, that those now in office, not possessed of the necessary qualifications, are studying hard to acquire them—also, scarcely a less important regulation, providing exemplary punishment for any one convicted of whipping his wife. Examples which the other colonies would do well to follow. There are, also, three military companies, well equipped and drilled. Indeed this may be said of all the settlements, more particularly Monrovia, for all the military arrangements of the colony are well and efficiently conducted.

R. McD.